

S/N 10/681,560

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20, 22-40 and 42-56 are pending. Claims 23 and 27 are amended to correct typographical errors. No new matter is added.

**Response to Restriction Requirement**

The Office Action dated November 28, 2005, restricted the claims into the following groups:

- I. Claims 1-20, 21-23, 27-40, 42 and 43, drawn to a method of making water-soluble chitosan, classified in class 536, subclass 55.3.
- II. Claims 24-26, 44 and 51-56, drawn to a water soluble chitosan product and a pharmaceutically acceptable solution thereof, classified in class 536, subclass 20 plus.
- III. Claims 45-50, drawn to a partially acetylated water-soluble chitosan, classified in class 536, subclass 20 plus.

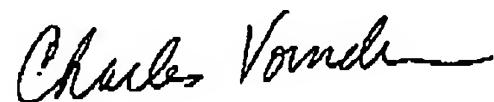
In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects with traverse to prosecute Group I, Claims 1-20, 21-23, 27-40, 42 and 43. Applicant notes that claim 21 was cancelled in the previous response.

Applicant respectfully requests that the claims of Group II be rejoined with the claims of Group I for at least the reason that the rejoinder of Group II with Group I would not cause the Examiner any undue burden. Applicant respectfully reminds the Examiner of the prohibition against holdings of double patenting applied to requirements for restriction between a process and a product made by such a process. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

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In the event a petition for an extension of time is required, this paper is to be considered such a petition. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



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